

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the sentence inserted before the first sentence in the original specification with the following:

[0000.1] This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/907,982, filed on July 18, 2001, now U.S. Patent 6,613,392 and claims benefit thereto.

Please add the following new paragraph [0011.1] after paragraph [0011]:

[0011.1] Figure 7 is an enlarged, diagrammatic, fragmentary sectional view of a reinforcing pin comprising a bundle of rods impregnated with a matrix resin.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following:

[0019] While fibers 42 are in the dry, unimpregnated condition and relationship shown in Figure 5, including voids or spaces 44 between adjacent fibers 42, a plurality of additional or second reinforcing members 46 are inserted into preform 40. Reinforcing members 46, herein conveniently called pins, can be in the form of a unitary structure such as a single rod ~~or fiber~~; but preferably member 46 is in the form of a bundle of rods shown generally at 46 in the enlarged, diagrammatic, fragmentary sectional view of Figure 7. Individual rods in the bundle of rods 46 are shown at 50 with a solid matrix 52 disposed about rods 50 in the bundle of rods 46. ~~fibers, sometimes referred to as filaments.~~ In a preferred form, in-plane fibers 42 as well as reinforcing members 46 are of at least one material selected from carbon, graphite, glass, and metal, one example of which is referred to in the art as boron fibers. A plurality of second reinforcing members 46 were inserted at an angle, in this example substantially transversely as shown in Figure 2, to the stack of layers 30 of in-plane reinforcing fibers 42. In the event members 46 contact in-plane fibers 42, loosely held fibers 42 were moved away from or beside members 46. Such free movement capability enables avoiding detrimental damage, for example abrasion, cracking, tearing, or completely fracturing, to in-plane reinforcing fibers 42.